

PROCEEDINGS
OF THE
BIOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF WASHINGTON

TWO NEW MOLES FROM CALIFORNIA AND OREGON.

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Among the abundant signs of Pocket Gophers (*Thomomys*) observed about our camp on the rim of Crater Lake, Oregon, in August, 1896, were a few ridges which my assistant, Mr. Vernon Bailey, felt convinced were the work of Moles. Assiduous trapping for a number of days, however, failed to bring to light any of these animals until finally, on August 18, a trap which on the previous day had caught a Pocket Gopher was found to contain the long-sought Mole. This animal, on comparison with specimens of *Scapanus californicus* from the Fort Klamath plain, at the south base of Crater Lake Mt., seems to be a distinct species. It is decidedly larger, and differs further in the characters mentioned below; but its affinities are with *californicus* and not with the large *S. townsendi*, its immediate neighbor on the west. The species is here named *Scapanus alpinus*, and is of special interest as being, so far as known, the only strictly mountain Mole in America. It will probably be found to range northward in the Cascade Mountains, and possibly southward in the Sierra Nevada. The type specimen was captured in the Hudsonian zone, at an altitude of about 7000 feet [= 2130 meters].

Another apparently new species was secured by my assistant, Mr. Clark P. Streator, but in a widely different region—the desert region east of the mountains, in the extreme northeastern corner of California. I have named it *Scapanus truei* in honor of Mr. F. W. True, in recognition of his recently published ‘*Revision of the American Moles.*’

The new forms may be known from the following descriptions:

Scapanus alpinus sp. nov.

Type from Crater Lake, Mt. Mazama, Oregon. Altitude about 2130 meters [7000 ft.]. No. 79967, ♂ ad., U. S. Nat. Mus., Biological Survey Coll. Collected Aug. 18, 1896, by Vernon Bailey. Original No. 5784.

General characters.—Similar to *Scapanus californicus*, but larger, with longer and heavier skull.

Color.—Everywhere uniform grayish plumbeous, much as in *californicus*, but without the brownish tinge; widely different from the blackish of *S. townsendi*.

Cranial and dental characters.—Skull similar to that of *californicus*, but much longer; molar teeth larger; last (6th) unicuspidate tooth, both upper and lower, peg-like, lacking the posterior blade or cusp of *californicus*.*

Measurements.—Type specimen, measured in flesh: total length, 188; tail vertebræ, 38; hind foot, 24.5.† Skull: greatest length, 37; basal length, 32; palatal length, 16.75; greatest zygomatic breadth, 13.5; mastoid breadth, 17.

Scapanus truei sp. nov.

Type from Lake City, Modoc Co., Calif., No. 79290, ad., U. S. Nat. Mus., Biological Survey Coll. Collected June 15, 1896, by Clark P. Streater. Original No. 5289.

General characters.—Similar to *S. californicus*, but paler and more plumbeous in color, and with a distinct inner cusp on last upper premolar.

Color.—Everywhere almost clear plumbeous (No. 14, 'olive-gray,' of Ridgway's Nomenclature of Colors), with a faint darker wash on upper parts.

Cranial and dental characters.—Skull similar to that of *S. californicus*, but slightly smaller, with narrower palate and decidedly narrower and more slender rostrum. Last upper premolar with a strongly developed, trenchant inner cusp, not present in *californicus*.

Measurements.—Type specimen (sex unknown) measured in flesh: total length, 170; tail vertebræ, 34; hind foot, 21. Skull: greatest length, 34.5; basal length, 29; palatal length, 15; zygomatic breadth, 13; mastoid breadth, 16.25.

* This may be the result of wear, as the specimen is old.

† Two specimens of *S. californicus* from Ft. Klainath have the tail 33 and the hind foot 20.5.